

Concerning the Examiner's objections to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a), the applicants herewith submit an amended drawing showing the alignment film 42 having been applied to the wall-like structure in addition to Figures 6(b) as evident in Figures 6(c) through (e).

The proposed drawing correction is clearly supported by the specification, and wherein the alignment film is not claimed as an essential feature of the presented claims but primarily as an aspect of the process forming the sealing structure. This particular procedure is clearly described in the specification, as also previously mentioned, and the minor drawing corrections to Figures 6(c) through 6(e) in addition to the previously submitted amendment of Figure 6(b) does not in any manner introduce new subject matter into this application, and would not be necessary for an understanding of the currently pending claims. Consequently, approval of the amendment to the drawings by the Examiner is earnestly solicited, and upon allowance of the application, appropriately amended formal drawings will be submitted by the applicants.

Applicants further note the rejection of the claims as being either anticipated or unpatentable over Colgan et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,831,710, that particular publication having been previously cited by the applicants, and being commonly assigned to the assignee of the present application.

Although Colgan et al., describes a wall-like structure which surrounds a display, there is no clear discussion that the notches in a plurality of walls which encompass the display interiorly of a peripheral sealing material, has the notches always offset relative to each other so as to prevent the direct ingress of sealing material towards the display.

To the contrary, reviewing the Colgan et al., patent, and particularly having reference to the drawings, the upstanding wall portions 31 and the corners are arranged so as to

enable a complete un-obstructed passage of sealing material from the exterior into the region of the display. Although, to an extent, various of the notches or apertures provided for between the different wall structures or wall segments thereof are offset relative to each other in instances as shown in Colgan et al., there are direct unobstructed openings and passageways leading from the exterior from which the sealing material is provided towards the interior containing the display area.

In contrast with the foregoing, pursuant to the present invention the wall-like structures which are constituted of rows of walls extending in spaced relationship relative to each other about the circumference or perimeter of the display, include notches which in each row are always offset relative to the notches of other rows of the plurality of wall like structures. This will at all times and at all locations inhibit the direct passage of any sealing material from the exterior of the wall like structures through the notches of the various rows towards the display.

The foregoing provides for a more extensive barrier-like structure inhibiting the flow of sealing material through the wall-like structure in any direct manner towards the display.

Accordingly, in order to emphasize the foregoing, applicants have amended the claims, without introducing further aspects thereto, to clarify the nature of the notches and their positioning in the rows of the wall-like structures so as to inhibit the passage of the sealing material therethrough from the exterior thereof.

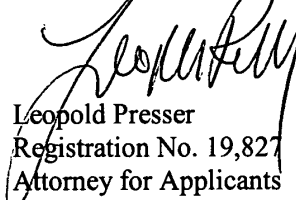
In this connection, Claims 1, 7 and 10, the independent claims have now each been amended so as to provide this particular limiting feature which clearly and patentably distinguishes over Colgan et al., and any other art known to the applicants.

Accordingly, the early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended is earnestly solicited. However, in the event that the Examiner has any

queries concerning the instantly submitted amendment, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Finally, pursuant to the requirements, applicants also enclose a **"Version with Markings Showing Changes Made"** to facilitate the Examiner's review of the present amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Marked-up Fig. 6(c) - 6e; as attached, marked in red.

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"VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE"

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 7 and 10; have been amended as follows:

--1. (Twice amended) A liquid crystal display device which has first and second substrates disposed with a predetermined gap, and seals a liquid crystal in the gap, comprising: a seal member provided at the gap between said first and second substrates, said seal member being disposed outside a display area to seal said liquid crystal; a wall-like structure disposed outside the display area and inside the seal member, said wall-like structure being made of a different material from that of said seal member and formed in plural rows; said wall-like structure being composed of dashed rows having notches; said notches of said wall-like structure being formed alternately in the plurality of dashed rows such that the notches in one row of said plural wall-like structure are always offset relative to the notches in another row of said wall-like structures along the lengths of said wall-like structures so that said seal material does not flow directly into said display area from exteriorly of said wall-like structures.

7. (Twice amended) A liquid crystal display device which has a first substrate and a second substrate disposed with a predetermined gap, and seals a liquid crystal in the gap, comprising
a seal member provided in the gap between said first and second substrates, said seal member being disposed outside a display area to seal said liquid crystal in said gap; and

a wall-like structure comprising a plurality of parallel rows of staggered notched walls disposed outside said display area and inside said seal member, such that the notches in one row of said plural wall-like structure are always offset relative to the notches in another row of said wall-like structures along the lengths of said well-like structures said wall-like structure being for preventing said seal member from flowing into said display area from exteriorly of said wall-like structure.

10. (Twice amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device, comprising the steps of:

applying resin onto a first substrate, and patterning said resin to form a frame-shaped wall-like structure surrounding a display electrode; said wall-like structure comprising a frame-shaped structure composed of a plurality of rows, each row showing a dashed line shape have predetermined notches in staggered offset relationship to each other such that the notches in one row of said plural wall-like structure are always offset relative to the notches in another row of said wall-like structures along the lengths of said well-like structures so as to inhibit flow of said seal member therethrough towards said liquid crystal;

arranging a second substrate so as to face said first substrate on which said seal member is applied, and pressing said second substrates to each other by said seal material; and

injecting a liquid crystal into a gap between said first and second substrates, which are adhered to each other.--

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Amend Figures 6c - 6e; as attached, marked in red.